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Rita Frevedox

































THANK YOU, MR. BIGBEAK, AND HAVE A GOOD DAY!



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For more than thirty years I have taught those darling little children in the grade schools. It has been necessary for me to give them examinations on what they should have studied and should have learned. Sometimes the examination is written. Other times it is oral. I also have to ask them questions about what they are doing. One thing is certain: If teacher is not clear in pronouncing a word or doesn't make the meaning clear of a thought, those little kids will give you unusual answers. The kids always enjoyed trying to catch teacher with a riddle or puzzle. Or find something that the teacher doesn't know. And how happy a boy or girl is when this has been accomplished.

Promotion came twice a year in our school. Two weeks before the end of the term I had to make up a "provisional promotion plan." Most of the students would be sent on to the next grade. They were promoted. Perhaps one or two would have to repeat the same grade of work. They were failed or as the kids called it, "left back." And one or two of the brightest students would be advanced a grade. The kids called this "skipped,"

In the lunch room the students were already talking about next term's teachers.

"If you get Mrs. Windsor, look out," warned Peter. "She doesn't let you do anything you want. You got to sit in your seat with your hands behind your back. She checks your fingernails every morning at inspection. If she doesn't like your composition paper you keep on doing it over and over. She thinks she is the Big Boss. Can't do anything you want in her class."

'Can I breathe in her class?" retorted Mike, "Bet she can't stop me from doing that!"

Two days after promotion, the principal sent for me to come to his office. Mrs. Rilley took over my class. And there I saw Jerry and his father. Jerry had been "left back." And his father looked ready for a fight

"What kind of a teacher are you?" he demanded. "My son has an average of 100% in arithmetic. You failed him only because you don't like him. I called up the Board of Education. You can't fail any student who has more than 75% average in arithmetic, Now you pass him right here."

I told him and the principal that I had the papers of Jerry. So back to my room I went and opened the back closet. Soon I was back again in the principal's office.

"I give five monthly tests in arithmetic," I explained. "The last one is the promotion test. Here are your son's papers. Look at the marks he received: 15%, 20%, 30%, 10% and 25%, I will admit that if you add them all up you get 100%. So maybe he was telling you the truth. And maybe he wasn't. Out side of that he is a nice boy. Now what do you want me to do?"

Only the concerted effort of the principal and myself prevented Jerry from getting the spanking of his life right there and then. Though we both figured he got it when he arrived back home.

Martin was one of the brightest students I ever had in that school, He was the only one skipped. And I heard this remark about him in the school auditorium.

"They had to skip Martin. Sure he's a smart guy. But that's not the point. They had to skip him."

"Why? You tell me just why? Other guys didn't get skipped. And I know that Freddy is also smart. But what gives with him?"

"I was up to his home and met his old man. He's a skipper on a big boat. So it figures, tike father like son. That means his son has to be a skipper too."

There are times when I admit I can't just fathom what goes on inside skulls of some students. But apparently in their own ways, they know what they are saying and what they are doing. And that goes also for Sammy. He was failed! Left back! Had to repeat the work over again. He wasn't dumb but just lazy. And two days after being failed he appeared in school with a sweat shirt on which he had carefully printed the following:

"I want to be a Half back - not a Left Back."

Sure it was a sensation but not the way we figured it. Because two weeks later, Sammy's father and Mr. Compton were in the principal's office.

"A most brilliant boy, that Sammy is," said Mr. Compton. "He's going someplace with such a head on his shoulders. Imagine, at his age to figure out that novelty shirt. I'm an honest business man. The kid got a check for \$1,000.00. And he gets ten per cent royalties. Yes, sir, he's going someplace."

The principal had the power to promote Sammy, which he did. Such is life in our school.

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CONTINUED AFTER THE NEXT JNO PAGES













## Rantinus ...an

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## "and in this Corner."

BARNEY, DON'T WALK SO FAST
PUFFS AND WHY ARE THOSE
STUPID ? PUFFS CAPDIES
ALWAYS A MILE AHEAD
OF US ? ? PUFFS

PINO, I APPRECIATE YOUR
HELP 3 PUPES BUT PLEASE
PONT PUSH SO FAST ! PUPES
PO SOMETHING ABOUT
IT!

GWEN KRAUSE / RAY DIRGO







































